

THE *Only*
GENUINE and AUTHENTIC
NARRATIVE
OF THE
PROCEEDINGS

Of the LATE

Capt. JAMES LOWREY,

BOTH

Before and after he became COMMANDER of
the Ship *MOLLY*: As the same was delivered
by Himself, in Manuscript, into the Hands of the
Rev^d Mr. *TAYLOR*, Ordinary of NEWGATE,
some short Time before his Execution.



LONDON:

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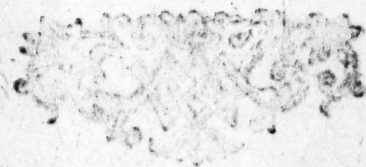
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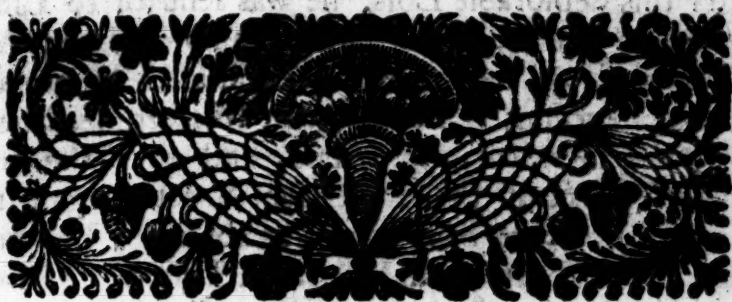
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 in 1864, in Maryland, into the House in the
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J. O. H. D. O. M.

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THE
Genuine Narrative
OF
Capt. JAMES LOWRY.



APTAIN *James Lowrey*, aged 34, was born at *Haddington*, near *Edinburgh*, in *Scotland*. He was a Descendant of a very good Family, and his Parents brought him up like a Gentleman, and intended to give him the best of Education; but while he was going through the Schools, and making the best Progress that he could, unhappily for him, his Father and Mother both died very soon after one another, leaving him behind them, who as yet was but very young.

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After

After this deplorable Loss, he was sent for to *London* by an Uncle, under whose kind and benevolent Inspection, he began to be initiated in mathematical Learning. To his great Misfortune, however, this Gentleman also died, and then the unhappy Subject of the subsequent Sheets began to think of going to Sea, being, at about 15 Years of Age, left destitute of all his near Relations. Whereupon, by his own Industry and Application, he got himself recommended to the Merchants Service; and on Board the first Ship, in which he went abroad, he had the Advantage of a mathematical Master, who went the Voyage to instruct the Captain's Son, and *Lawrey* had the Indulgence given him of the same Gentleman's Instruction by which Means he became also thoroughly acquainted with the Theory of the Art of Navigation; and as to the practical Part since that Time, he is allowed by all that knew him in the Capacity of a Seaman, to have improved his Time, as well as any Man of his Years ever did.

Having said thus much in Regard to his Character, as an able and experienced Sailor, we shall add nothing farther at present of our own, but shall refer the Reader to the following true and genuine Narrative of his last unhappy Voyage from *Jamaica* to *England*, which we received in Manuscript from his own Hand but a short Time before his Execution; for which Reason it is highly improbable that any other Accounts should be true and genuine, whatever some Persons of too consummate an Assurance, may presume to assert to the contrary, in Favour of their own crude and spurious Productions.

After having spent seven Years in the Merchant's Service, I entered myself into the Service
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of his Majesty's Navy in the Year 1736, and continued therein till the Year 1747; at which Time the Peace being concluded, several of my very good Friends advised me to go to *Jamaica*; and as I determined to comply with that Motion, they were pleased to assist me very kindly with several Letters, wherein they very sanguinely recommended me to some of the principal Inhabitants, who were Merchants in those Parts.

No sooner, therefore, was I arrived in the Island, but they gave me the Command of one of their trading Sloops. Accordingly I went with her to *Porto Bello*, but Trade being in some Measure stagnated there, the Sloop was laid up. Upon this, I went down to the Parish of *Westmoreland*, where the Gentlemen Planters received me with all the Testimonies of the highest Deference and Regard; and voluntarily, without any Sollicitations on my Part, offered to load any Ship whatever, that I should think proper to bring into that Part of the Island, preferable to any other Commander whomsoever, that should visit the Place; and to convince me of the Sincerity of their friendly Intentions towards me, they furnished me with ample Letters of Recommendation to their principal Correspondents in the City of *London*.

During the Time of my Residence in the Parish of *Westmoreland* in that Island, as abovementioned, Mr. *Bally Elworthy* and Company, who were very substantial Merchants at *Kingston* wrote me a Letter, but I was at *Kingston* before it came to my Hands.

However, as soon as I arrived, they paid me a Visit, and, after a short Treaty, they put me into Possession of the Ship *Molly*, which happened about the latter End of *September* in the Year

1750. As at that Time there were neither Mates nor Hands of any Consideration belonging to the said Vessel (good Sailors being then very scarce, and hard to be procured in *Jamaica*) and making a Winter's Voyage of it, I was reduced to the Necessity of taking up with such People as I could find, whether able and experienced Hands or not, and to give an exorbitant Price likewise to encourage them to make the Voyage with me.

On the 28th of *October*, then next following, at which Time I had the Pilot on Board, and a Sloop-boat ready to supply my People with such Cloaths, and other Necessaries as they should stand most in Need of for their Winter's Passage. I set Sail from *Port-Royal* in *Jamaica*, having then on Board the following Crews, viz. *James Lowrey*, Master, *James Gaddirer*, Chief Mate, *Humphry Roberts*, second Mate, *James Smout*, *Cornelius Clerk*, *John Hunt*, *Edward Flakerty*, *William Dwight*, and *John Grace*, who were all shipp'd by the second Mate and Merchants, at Two Guineas a-piece Premium, with Orders to me to give them a Note for Ten Guineas, and Ten Gallons of Rum each, as soon as the Ship should arrive at her Moorings in the River of *Thames*.

William Wham, *John Murray*, *Peter Bright*, and *Keneth Hassock*, were shipp'd by myself, with whom I agreed to give each a Note for Ten Pounds, and Ten Gallons of Rum. As to *James Ramshaw*, he acted only as my Servant, and was to sail at no stated Price, but to be rewarded after our Passage, according to his good Behaviour and Deserts.

No sooner had we got without the Keys, and the Pilot was discharged, but I called all Hands up (being all perfect Strangers to me) and addressed

ressed myself to them by Words to this or the like Effect.

Gentlemen,

‘ We are now entered upon our intended Voyage for *England* ; and as our Hands are but few, let me recommend to you, in the first Place, Peace and Quietness, and Brotherly Love, one amongst another ; avoid all Jarrings and Discontents, but contrive Matters so as to ease one another as Opportunity may offer, since the Business of the Ship (as you are all sensible) must be done.

‘ Nothing shall be wanting in me to contribute towards your Happiness and Welfare, and I shall be proud of encouraging you, whenever I shall find you, by your Diligence and Application, visibly deserve it.

‘ When your Rigging shall be secured from chipping, and when you have got a sufficient Supply of Points, Gaskills, Spun-yarn, and some few other Requisites, which Materials are best to be got ready prepared, whilst we are in a warm Country.

‘ When these little preliminary Services (which are absolutely necessary) are once over, you will have little else to do, during the Remainder of the Voyage, but to tend the Ship, Watch and Watch.’

When we got into the cold Weather, and they came to their Watches alternately, I gave them a Five Pint Flask of Rum, and told them for their Encouragement, that if they behaved well it should frequently be repeated.

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In the Afternoon, I made it my Business to overhaul the Pump, and Pump-gear, and upon strict Examination found the Larboard Pump choak'd ; whereupon I hoisted it up, and at last, tho' with no small Trouble and Difficulty, I punched a broken Pump Break out of it.

When I had put the Pump in its proper Position, and all Matters were settled to my Satisfaction, in Regard to so important a Particular ; I called the Mates down to the Cabbin, and gave them to understand, that it was absolutely necessary to be careful, and to inspect narrowly into all Deficiencies, considering that we were on Board an old crazy Vessel ; and that the keeping the Pumps, and their Gear in good Case and Condition, was a very essential Article ; and thereupon I repeated to them my Admonition of Care and Assiduity in all such material Points ; and added, moreover, that it was a Point of Prudence to be always guarded against all Casualties, that might either damage the Ship, or expose our Lives and Safeties to any visible and apparent Danger.

After this general Admonition, I applied myself to the Mates in particular, and asked them whether they had taken proper Care to be duly furnished with Tinder, Matches, and the like trivial, tho' absolutely necessary Materials ; to which they both answered in the Affirmative.

I then told them, that, as we were at that Time turning to the Windward, we should have no Occasion for any Light in the Binacle, so long as we could see the Compass.

Some Time afterwards, however, Occasion offered, that a Light was necessary, and I gave Orders for one accordingly ; but, to my Surprise, neither were there any Matches or Tinder to be found :

found: And being somewhat vex'd, and indeed angry at such a gross Piece of Neglect, I reprimanded the Mate pretty severely for his Remissness in giving Credit to a Parcel of Fellows on Board, who were perfect Strangers, and on whose Words there was no Dependence.

After thus justly shewing my Resentment, I desired that he himself would take Care that neither Tinder nor Matches should for the future be wanting, and gave him, moreover, to understand, that I expected he should not hereafter think the Care of such seeming Trifles beneath his Notice; since it was not only a Duty incumbent on him, but was a constant Practice observed by all diligent Mates in the Merchants Service.

Some Time after this Reprimand and Caution given, I got up in the Night-time, and found both the Mates asleep, though on their Watch.

Here again, as I imagine I had very just Cause, I reprimanded them more severely than before, and expostulated with them on such a shameful Act of Indolence and Neglect, and told them at the same Time, that it would be impossible to get to Windward, unless the Ship was very carefully tended; and that they knew, as well as myself, that all common Hands would be remiss, unless a very watchful Eye was kept over them.

Notwithstanding all these Expostulations, I found they had no Influence over them, as soon as out of my Sight; for the very next Night I found them fast asleep as before.

Being extremely provoked at this their Misconduct, and Neglect of my Orders, and finding it impossible, through their Perverseness, to get to the Windward, I hoisted our Colours on the 30th of *October*, about Six in the Morning, and bore away

way for the Gulph of *Florida*. About Eight of the Clock, I perceived a Snow in the *Offing*, which plied to the Windward. She shewed her Colours, and bore away after us, and thereupon we shortened our Sail, and about Noon spoke with the *Nancy Snow*, *Michael Dalton*, Master, who came from *Black River* in *Jamaica*, and was bound for *London*.

We agreed to keep Company together. At this Time several of our Hands were in a bad State of Health, and as *James Smout*, in particular, was ill of a Fever, I moved him into the Mate's Cabbin, in order, in the first Place, to be near me, and in the next, to prevent him, as much as possible, from being disturbed.

Between the 30th of *October*, and the 5th of *November*, I had Occasion for a Light in the Binacle, but could neither find Tinder nor Matches; whereupon I once more reprimanded the Mate for his monstrous Remissness, in not getting such Materials in Readiness himself, or at least in not seeing that some Person or other performed so necessary an Office.

Upon this, contrary to my Expectations, he treated me with all the Indignity imaginable, and, moreover, with very scurrilous Language; which I no otherwise resented, than by telling him, that I was surpris'd at his Insolence, and rude Deportment; and that it would be an Act of Prudence in him (from the Indulgence that I had shewn him during his Passage so far) that his Diligence and Application to what he was charged to do, should make Atonement for his Want of Capacity for the future.

Hereupon he persisted in his opprobrious Language, and was more impertinent and noisy than before;

before ; he told me he was as much a Gentleman as myself, and as such, would take a proper Opportunity to call me to Account for my insulting him ; and ever after never concerned himself about the Affairs of the Ship, but played the Part of a Bully, and hector'd and domineer'd without Controul.

As this Insolence and repeated ill Language, with which he treated me, was past all Sufferance, without shewing a proper Resentment, I was obliged, tho' contrary to my Inclinations, to debar him from the Privilege of my Cabbin and Table, &c.

Tho' I testified my Displeasure thus far, yet I sent *Edward Flakerly* to let him know, that notwithstanding his ill Treatment of me in so provoking a Manner, he should still have the Use of every Thing I had, which was an Act of Indulgence he did not deserve at my Hands.

The Answer he sent back was very saucy and impertinent to the last Degree.

As I found every Thing perfectly neglected, several of my Hands on Board useless thro' Sickness, and myself greatly distressed by the Mate's Contempt of the Orders which they received from me, from Time to Time, I was reduced to the Necessity of discovering the unhappy Situation I was in to Captain *Dalton*, as often as Opportunity would permit.

I told him that I was apprehensive, from the refractory Deportment of my Mates, that they proposed, in the Night-Time, to occasion a Separation between us, which would be a great Mortification to me, should they accomplish such a villainous Design.

On *November* the 3d, at about 5 o'Clock in the Afternoon, I brought the Ship to, under the Main-
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sail,

sail, and sent my Hands up to hand the Foresail; but I might as well have preached to the Wind; they turn'd a deaf Ear to all my Orders, and were no more under Command than if I had been their Equal.

Seeing myself thus slighted, I thought I had very just Grounds for Complaint; and accordingly I reprimanded Mr. *Gaddirer*, in very warm Terms, for condescending so low as to drink Grog with the Refuse of the Ship.

As the Seas ran high in the Night, and my Boy *James Ramshaw* being missing in the Morning, I concluded, upon the strictest Enquiry I could make, that the young Fellow was washed over-board in the Dark, he being, as I understood, that Evening over-loaded with Liquor.

Being greatly concern'd for the Loss of the Boy, I asked the Mates what they thought of the Matter? Upon this, Mr. *Gaddirer*, who was in excessive high Spirits (which I had not observed for some Time before) made Answer, with a kind of Sneer, the Boy, Sir, has frequently told me, that he would jump over-board, and put himself out of his Pain at once; with several additional Impertinencies, tending to the same Purpose.

Upon this I asked him why he did not communicate such a rash Intention of the Lad's before; and at the same Time, I address'd myself to the Crew in general, and desired them to speak their Sentiments freely, whether they had ever seen me guilty of any Severities that could induce any one of them to lay violent Hands on himself, and be his own unhappy Executioner?

After this publick Appeal I desired Mr. *Roberts*, the second Mate, to write in the Log-Book their several

several Sentiments in Regard to the sudden Loss of the Lad.

As Mr. *Gaddiser* I found gave me fresh Occasions for Complaint against him, by his Insolence and Contempt of my Orders, I had determined, that, in Case the Weather had permitted (and gave him to understand as much) I would dismiss him, and resign him to Captain *Dalton*, if he should be inclined to take him; for I plainly perceived that he was projecting the utter Ruin of the Voyage to all Intents and Purposes.

On the 29th, however, in the Afternoon, *James Ramshaw*, the Boy whom we had all concluded to be drown'd, to our great Satisfaction, as well as Surprise, made his personal Appearance; he having conceal'd himself, as he then acknowledg'd, for Fear of being punish'd for getting drunk; which (tho' I am sorry to say it) gave a surprising Check to that Flow of Spirits which Mr. *Gaddiser* had shew'd during the Lad's Non-appearance.

On the 30th I was taken very ill, having caught a violent Cold, which had so great an Effect upon me that I found myself under a Necessity of taking to my Bed.

In the Evening, as the Wind blew excessive hard, I call'd to Mr. *Roberts*, and asked him what he meant by carrying such a Pressure of Sail at so unseasonable a Time. I found, however as he was very much in Liquor, that it was to little Purpose to check him then; but I charged him Home the next Morning with his ill Conduct, and with getting drunk, at a Time when he ought to have had his Thoughts about him, for the Safety of himself as well as of the Ship.

To these Remonstrances he made little or no Reply, and all my Admonitions were perfectly thrown away upon him.

About two or three Days afterwards, as I thought it adviseable to bring the Ship more by the Head, I got the Cables up, and ordered my Men to get a Mahogany Plank out of the Steerage; but I found they trifled away their Time, and more tedious than I expected, I went down below myself in order to quicken them.

Upon my coming amongst them, to see what they were about, both the Mates gave me a very rude Reception; and *Roberts* in particular (damning his Eyes at the same Time) left off Work, and swore he would not be hurried and worried in such a Manner, not he truly; upon which I own I reprimanded him very severely; but shew'd my Resentment in no other Shape.

In the Night-Time, I perceiv'd the Mates were shamefully negligent, even during their Watch; whereupon I flatly and plainly told them, that I saw through their Drift, and that they were contriving to occasion a Separation between my Ship and Captain *Dalton's*.

On the 7th of *December*, as I was extremely ill, and obliged to keep my Bed, Mr. *Gaddiser* came down to my Bed-side, about five o'Clock in the Afternoon, to acquaint me that they had lost Sight of the *Snow*, and that they had been yawing the Ship about for above two Hours, taking the Advantage of my Indisposition, and Incapacity to prevent them from pursuing their own wayward Inclinations. I told them thereupon, that I thought they were highly to blame for altering their Course without my Approbation or Consent; and this I told them was a Scheme which they had for a long Time

Time contriv'd, and had embraced the favourable Opportunity of my Confinement to my Bed to carry their Mal-practices into Execution.

On the 11th, having met with very tempestuous Weather, and finding that we shipped a large Quantity of Water, I unlipt the Winles, and lash'd it to the Ring-bolts on Deck; after that I employed myself in caulking, where I found there was Occasion; but missing the Pitch-Kettle and Pitch, which I then wanted to make use of, and having seen both the Night before, I turned all Hands up, and tax'd them with their ill Behaviour towards me in general, (for I plainly perceived a manifest Difference in their Deportment since I had unhappily lost Sight of the *Snow*) and at the same Time I told them moreover, that they were a Pack of inconsiderate Rascals, and that I look'd upon all the Steps they took, no better nor worse, than so many flagrant Acts of Piracy; whereupon I put them all to short Allowance, in order to see if some one or other of them would not impeach the Person who had clandestinely, and with a malicious Intention, thrown the Pitch-pot over-board; since, as it had been seen so lately, there must be Somebody or other must inevitably know by what Means it was lost.

After I had caulk'd, wherever I found it most expedient and absolutely necessary; and after I parcell'd and paid the Scams with the Tar boil'd down; in the Afternoon I found *John Murray* fast asleep below; whereupon I roused him out of his Nest; and ask'd him if he was not ashamed to indulge himself in so slothful a Manner at that Time of the Day; at which he at first only mutter'd and grumbled; but when perfectly awak'd, he treated me with all the scurrilous Language

guage that his malicious Heart could devise, and farther flatly refused to obey my Directions; and instead thereof, he went directly up to the Fore-top-mast Head; where he not only repeated his opprobrious Language, but vow'd Revenge.

Upon this, I sent the second Mate, *Mr. Roberts*, up, to fetch him down; who brought him accordingly; and I own I chastiz'd him pretty smartly with the End of the Cross-Jagg-brace, for his Insolence and unmannerly Deportment.

After this, notwithstanding we shipt Abundance of Water, we plainly perceiv'd that our Vessel was much tighter than it was before.

In Process of Time, however, as we met with a great Deal of very bad Weather, and as our Ship grew leaky, my Men more and more headstrong and unruly, and very seldom sober, I was compell'd, as it were, to keep Liquor from them; but all my Endeavours to restrain and curb them prov'd altogether fruitless and ineffectual; for the second Mate sold them Liquors clandestinely contrary to my express Orders, and his repeated Promises never to transgress in that Particular any more; but such Protestations I found were very little regarded, and the same Misdemeanours were repeated as soon as my Back was turn'd.

On *December* the 23d, *William Wham* came to me, between three and four in the Afternoon, and made his Complaint to me of *Keneth Hassock*, and insisted that he had open'd his Bag, and stole from thence several Notes; upon which Charge, I called the said *Hassock* up, and found him very deeply disguised in Liquor. After this *John Hunt* and *James Smout* came to me with fresh Complaints against the said *Hassock* for stealing a Bottle of Rum from each of them; and in short, all the whole

whole Crew exclaim'd against the said *Hassock*, as an errand Thief, Blood-Sucker, and the worst of Villains, &c. Upon this universal Complaint, I bid them all be easy, that I would narrowly inspect into the Truth of all the Crimes thus laid to his Charge; and would do them Justice (in Case I found him guilty) as soon as he was sober.

As soon as the Fellow had recover'd his Senses, I ordered him to be made fast to the Rails on the Starboard Side of the Quarter-Deck; and soon after Mr. *Gaddirer* came and told me, that *Hassock* wanted to go to the Head to ease Nature: To which I said, by all Means; but take Care I charge you, that the Fellow gets no Liquor during the Time of his Release. He asked several of the Crew, however, as I was afterwards inform'd, to give him a Dram, to touch his Liver, and made use of several quaint Terms of the like Nature, during the Time he was untied.

As the Crew, however, abused him for his ill Behaviour, he was fastened again to the Rails as at first. Much about six o'Clock I came upon Deck, and asked the chief Mate how all Matters stood? O, Sir, said he, brave and pretty moderate.

Casting my Eyes on *Hassock*, I perceived he was upon his Knees; upon which said I to the Mate, Why don't you make the Fellow stand on his Legs? To this he replied, that he had endeavour'd so to do, but could not make him change his Posture. Then said I, I'll make him get up, I warrant you. So calling my Hands all up, I ordered them to loose the Top-sails, mend the Reefs, and set the Main-top-sail.

As *Hassock* was setting on the Ground during these Preliminaries to the Punishment due to his Demerits, I went to him, and bid him stand up-
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on his Legs. At first he paid no Manner of Regard to my Commads. I parted from him, however, for some Time, with only telling him, that if he would not stir, and continue fullen till I return'd, I would most assuredly chastise him with such a Rope's End as should soon bring him out of his dogged Airs ; and then I gave him three smart Straps, 'tis true ; but it was upon his Backside. When I had given him this gentle Correction, I went over on the other Side to hurry the People to Sheet home the Main-top-sail. As soon as the Sheets were belaid, I called the Men aft, and bid them take *Hassock* out of the Way of hoisting the Main-top-sail ; but they not coming Time enough, I ran a-cross myself for that Purpose ; and when I came up to him, I perceiv'd his Head was hanging over his Shoulder, and that he foam'd at the Mouth.

Upon this unexpected Spectacle, I call'd for a Knife with the utmost Precipitation to cut him loose ; and as soon as that could possibly be done, I order'd him to be carried below, which was done accordingly.

As we found him speechless, we us'd our best Endeavours to bleed him, and took the best Measures we could think of to restore him to his Senses ; but we found he was past Recovery.

On the 26th of *December*, when I came upon Deck in the Morning, the Crew made Complaint to me of *William Wham's* being below, and that they could not get him upon Deck ; whereupon I went down to see what was the Matter with him. When I came to him, he bawl'd, and roar'd out most hideously, telling me at the same Time that he was sadly tormented with Rheumatic Pains ; that he was very subject to such Disorders, and had been

been Five Months at a Time formerly in *St. Thomas's Hospital*.

As he was lying there with *Peter Bright*, wrapt up in the Gib with all his wet Cloaths on, I made him strip directly, turn into his Cabin, and order'd something warm for him to drink.

The Crew I found were nettled all Day long at this humane Treatment of him, and in a grumbling, discontented Tone, insisted that *Wham* only sham'd sick.

The next Morning, however, as the Crew still peremptorily asserted, that *Wham* was as capable of standing the Business of the Deck as either of them. I went down, and insisted on his making his Appearance above; which Order he complied with, but with Abundance of Difficulty, and to all outward Appearance in great Pain; for he roar'd most pitiously.

In the Afternoon, however, I prevail'd on him to stand to the Pump; and coming to see how he went on about Five o'Clock, I found him most shamefully drunk. Being thus highly provok'd, I insisted to know by what Means, and of whom he procur'd such a Quantity of Liquor, as to be intoxicated to such a scandalous Degree. At last, after some pretty severe Menaces, he confess'd he had it of the second Mate; upon this I called Mr. *Roberts*, and charg'd him with a Breach of his Promise; and at the same Time laid before him, in a serious, sedate Manner, the Inconveniences that attended the leaky Vessel we were in, and that the Lives and Safeties of the whole Company were at Stake, whilst he was indulging the common Fellows in Licentiousness, and rendering them incapable of doing their respective Duties.

As *Roberts* had frequently (upon being pretty roundly reprimanded by me) promised, in the most solemn Manner, that he would sell none of the Crew any Liquors whatsoever for the future; and being conscious to himself that if I catch'd him any more in that clandestine Way of dealing, I should entertain a very bad Opinion of him, since he was very sensible that I would not suffer any one of the Crew to be depriv'd of Liquor in Case they made but a proper Use of it. I said no more to *Roberts* at that Juncture, but went ast upon the Quarter-deck. No sooner had I left him, but *Roberts* began to belabour *Wham* pretty severely; upon which I call'd to him, and bid him let the Fellow alone, as he was so monstrously drunk and insensible of the Fault for which he chastiz'd him. Besides, I told him, it was cruel in him to sell him the Liquor first that had so disguis'd him, and then to beat him so unmercifully for telling me the Truth when I insisted on knowing it.

Roberts, however, regardless of my Expostulations, repeated his Blows; but at last I insisted on it, that he should give over, and strike him no more. *Roberts*, in Defiance of my express Orders, swore he would continue threshing him, and treated me at the same Time with too scurrilous Language for one in my Office to put up with from an Inferior, and thereupon I knock'd him down directly with my double Fist. Not long after, *Roberts* went, and lean'd on the Gunnel of the Yawl; upon which I ask'd him how he durst presume to behave in so insolent a Manner, when he could not but perceive that I was taking all the Care and Concern I possibly could for the Preservation of the Ship, and the Lives and Safeties of every individual Person that was in her.

To

To this I added some other Expostulations of the like Nature. *Roberts*, in a Passion, damn'd his Eyes, and replied, Do you think I'll be worried in this Manner by you? And as the *Winless* was lash'd on the Main-deck, he knock'd me down over the End of it; then fell upon me, and got one of his Fingers down my Throat, and with the other Hand beat me most unmercifully; and moreover kneed me. I insisted on his letting me rise, No, Damn his Eyes, if he did, for he'd lick me within an Inch of my Life.

Seeing him so resolute, at last I cried out Murder: Upon which Mr. *Gaddirer* came to my Assistance, and took him off me; but as I had held his Finger fast in my Mouth, till I was obliged to cry out, I had brought away the Skin and Flesh from the upper Knuckle down to the very Nail.

After the Fray was in some Measure over, the other Hands flock'd round about me, hearing how I had been mortified by *Roberts*, and cried, in a hypocritical Tone, Lord! Sir, what shall we all do? We shall all be ruin'd and undone; we shall not know how to act should you come to any Misfortune; with Abundance of the like Cant, To these False-hearted Addresses of theirs I replied, that they were all a pack of inconsiderate, worthless Rascals. How durst you, said I, see me abused in such an open and merciless Manner, and not endeavour to prevent it? Do you know, ye Rascals, that there is No-body to take Care either of the Ship, or your own Lives, except myself? Sure I am, whatever Thoughts you may entertain of me, you'll find me your best Friend at last.

On the 28th, in the Morning, as the Weather was then pretty moderate, I observed a Piece of the Doubling broke off on each Side of the Stern, where it was very visible that the Water flowed in apace. On this Discovery I determined to lighten the Ship, by throwing the Nicuragua Wood over-board, which was very heavy.

About Ten o' Clock *John Hunt* came to me, and informed me, that he was all of a Sudden taken extremely ill: Upon that, I took him down into the Cabbin, and gave him a Glass of Wine; and then ordered him to lie down, and try to repose himself.

The two Hands that were sick before, namely, *John Grace* and *Peter Bright*, having been several Times found drunk, and all Hands being employed in throwing the cumbrous Wood over-board, I obliged them to go among the rest, to prevent them from getting more Liquor; for we had found the Neck of a Quart-Bottle, with Strings fastened to it, which they dipt (as they afterwards acknowledged) into the Bung-hole of a Cask of Rum, which was the Property of Mr. *Roberts*, the second Mate.

In the Afternoon, those that had been at Work grumbled and muttered most grievously, about *Hunt's* being below, and indulged so long; and insisted upon his getting to Work, as he had five or six Hours Refreshment. I told him what grievous Complaints they made, and that they insisted he only sham'd being sick, and was as able to work as they were; for which Reason, I used my utmost Endeavours to prevail upon him to go upon Deck, and be as serviceable as he could, considering the dangerous Situation we were in; and after some crying and whining, he obeyed my Directions,

tions, and reconciled himself to the Work in Hand, for his own Sake, as well as the public Safety.

After we had thrown about ten Tons of the Wood before-mentioned into the Sea, and thereby lightened the Ship as far as I thought absolutely necessary, the next material Affair was to stop the Leak; but as I had been so much bruised and battered by the unparallel'd Insolence of the first Mate, I had not Power to get over the Bowes for that Purpose; so I sent the chief Mate and *John Murray* over with Tar, Oakum, and other proper Materials, to stuff into the Hole on the Larboard Side; and after that, I gave them Orders to nail a Piece of strong Board over it, in order to secure the Breach. When this was over, we consulted the State in which the Pumps were; and, to our inexpressible Joy, we found a manifest Difference in a very short Time; and finding the Ship was now tolerably tight, I sent what Hands could be spared to take some natural Refreshment after their Fatigue.

On *December 29*, about Two in the Morning, the chief Mate came to my Bed-side, and informed me, that none of the Hands could be prevailed on to work at the Pumps, and that they could not fetch the Weather-pump at all; and that the Vessel was three and twenty Inches deep in Water.

This unfortunate and unexpected Account surprized me very much; and thereupon I said, I am very well assured then, that the Pump had stood still all the preceding Night; for I had tended them myself above two Hours but the Afternoon before; and, with a very little Art and Management, they would

would then suck as well as could be reasonably desired.

I got up, however, upon this Information, and when I got upon Deck, I found the whole Crew stov'd up in a Corner together, and all of them drunk. I ask'd them if they were not ashamed to be found in such an idle Posture, when the Pumps were standing still, and we had such a Quantity of Water in the Ship : But to this they made no Manner of Reply. I then ask'd the Mate, why he did not oblige those lazy Fellows to stand to their Work. Then I applied to them all in general, and asked them what they thought of themselves, and what they meant by having no Regard either for the Ship's Welfare, or their own Safety, as well as mine.

Finding, however, that all Expostulations with them had no Manner of Effect, I told them, that I plainly perceived their Drift, and that they were determined, at all Adventures, to sink the Ship ; but if that was the Case, they should not accomplish their rascally and villainous Purposes, without feeling the Weight of my Resentment. And thereupon I drove them, by Dint of threshing them, to the Pumps, having first fetched the Weather-pump myself, and sucked the Pumps in for full Half an Hour together by the Glass.

When I had thus got them once more to work, I began to expostulate with them in cooler Terms. I told them, I was concerned to be an Eye-witness of their perverse and obstinate Behaviour ; and, at the same Time, I begged of them to reflect a little seriously on the happy Discovery which had been made of the Leak ; which, if not timely stopp'd, had sent the Ship, and themselves likewise, in a very short Compass of Time, to the Bottom
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of the Sea : But now, as soon as the Piece was properly nailed upon the other Side of the Stern, I no ways doubted but that the Vessel would be tight enough, and able to pursue her Voyage ; that, as soon as proper Care should be taken for their general Safety, I would carry an easy Sail, till they were all sufficiently refreshed after their late Fatigue ; concluding with a Recommendation of Unity and Love among themselves, and a friendly Precaution against drinking to Excess.

After this Address to them, I sent all of them to their Cabbins that could possibly be spared off the Deck ; and about Seven or Eight o'Clock the next Morning, as I perceived all Matters seemed quiet and easy, I asked them how the Pumps were. The Answer they made me was, that they went as well as could be expected ; that they could let them stand still for a Quarter of an Hour together, and yet suck them out in twenty or thirty Strokes.

The Weather being tolerably moderate, I sent proper Hands up to loose the Main-top-sail. The Top-sail being set, I went and reposed myself on a Cotten-bag on the Starboard Side of the Quarter-deck.

My People took the Advantage of my lying in that Posture, and no ways on my Guard, and all on a sudden surrounded me, and pinion'd my Hands behind me : Seeing myself helpless, and in their Power, I begg'd of them to let me loose in the mildest Terms ; but they made Answer I should kill them if they gave me my Liberty. I assured them that I would not meddle with any one of them, but insisted on their assigning some Reason for their treating me after such a cruel and unprecedented Manner. Their Reply to this reasonable
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and modest Request was to the Purport following ; namely, that in the first Place, they were not able to go through the Toil and Fatigue of the Voyage ; in the next, that they were so bare and thin of Cloaths, that when they had sailed much farther to the Northward they should be perfectly starved ; and in a Word, that they had much rather loose their Run-Money than their Lives ; that they could not, and would not, proceed on their Voyage without Liquors ; and that they would not put up with my austere and merciless Proceeding towards them.

To all these important Articles, I replied, That as to their extraordinary Fatigue in the first Place, the greatest Part of it seemed to me to be over (barring all unforeseen Casualties) since we had happily discovered where the Leak sprang, and that I did not question in the least that they were so effectually stopt, that they would stand the Voyage. As to their next Article, I told them, in direct Terms, that they should never have strong Liquors more, with my Consent, since they made such a bad Use of them. As to their Want of Cloaths, the Fault was wholly owing to themselves ; since they might have supplied themselves, if they had thought, with all Conveniencies, out of the Slop-boat, whilst they were at *Jamaica*. And as to the last Charge against me, of my using them with Austerity, and severe Blows, I told them, that what I did in that Shape, was with Reluctance, and that nothing but their own ill Conduct, which render'd the Safety of my Ship and their Lives as well as my own precarious, could have induced me to have treated them in an uncivil and ungentleman-like Manner.

After

After this Vindication of my own Conduct, I address'd myself to them in the following Manner: Pray, Gentlemen, to what Part do you propose to steer? My Mates made Answer, for the Western Islands. To this Scheme I rejoin'd, that it was a very improper Time of the Year, and might prove of a very bad Consequence; and for that Reason, if they would hearken to my Advice, I would persuade to steer for the *English* Channel; and that if they had acted amiss in their Confinement of me, it would appear greatly in their Favour; that I should look upon it as a double Act of Piracy, in Case they should not steer the Ship for *England*, or *Ireland*; that notwithstanding it was twice the Distance from either, yet we stood a much better Chance than in making the Islands, considering the tempestuous Weather that is so common at this Time of the Year.

To all these Motives to dissuade them from pursuing their own ill-concerted Project, I added farther what follows: You lie now (said I) North-East, and near the Full of the Moon; keep but on this Tack, and you will get North-ing, and have a fair Chance for a Westerly Wind.

All my Advice, however, vailed nothing at all; for they were to the Southward. I went down, and work'd the Bearance of *Silly*, *Cape Clear*, and the Island *Trusker*. Since I perceive your Resolutions, said I, I shall for the future be very candid in giving you my Advice or Opinion for the Good of the Ship.

The Mates immediately ordered Liquors and Provisions to be carried to the Mast. The Reader is desired to take Notice, that at that Time there was on Board five Barrels of Beef, about

three hundred Weight of Bread, some Pork and Pease, fifty Weight of Butter, and three Butts of Water, besides Rum.

On *Sunday*, about Eight in the Morning, they handed the Main-top-sail. At two in the Afternoon, they haul'd up the Fore-clew-garnets only, and laid the Ship to, under a Main-sail. They got the small Sails upon Deck.

At six I came upon Deck, and found some of the Hands wrapt in the small Sails upon Deck, and the Rest below, the Pumps standing still all the Time.

As No-body gave the least Attendance to the Ship, I made a great Noise, seeing the Foresail was beating to Pieces against the Stays: Neither the Braces, nor the rolling Tackle, were hawl'd torth. Hearing my Out-cry, up came the chief Mate. I charg'd him with being guilty of monstrous Negligence, and told him moreover, that he might expect (and so might every Hand on Board) to be called to Account for their arbitrary Proceedings.

The Mate thereupon treated me with all the Testimonies of Ignominy and Contempt; and with a Sheer, replied, We know we shall be call'd to Account, and was, moreover, very insolent and rude. His Behaviour, however, did not prevent my giving him some wholesome Admonitions, and laying before him the ill Consequences that would attend the Sails beating to Pieces, and the Ship's being otherwise disabled; for by such Means, we should never be able to make any Port but with the greatest Difficulty imaginable.

My next Piece of Advice was, to be more careful and frugal of his Liquors and Provisions; and since they were resolutely bent to steer Southwards, I would

I would recommend *Lisbon* to them as a Port of Safety, where they could readily be supplied with such Conveniencies as they should have most Occasion for ; for it was my Opinion, if one might form any Judgment from their manner of Proceeding, we should neither have Sails, Rigging, nor Provisions. They turn'd a deaf Ear, notwithstanding, to all my Directions, and all the Persuasions that I could think of were altogether fruitless and ineffectual, for they were determin'd to pursue their own Schemes at all Adventures.

On *Monday* the 31st, about Eight in the Morning, they were to East South East, and their Fore-sail and Main-sail was much beat. As I was sensible the Sails did not perform the Service they ought to do, I advis'd them to trim them, and secure their Yards from fetching Way ; since there were none of their Traces or other Tacles haul'd tort ; but still I was look'd upon as a Cypher, and my Advice was treated with Contempt. No Manner of Regard was paid to any Particular of what Consequence soever, the Main and Fore-Sheets were suffer'd to fly, and the Sails to beat against the Stays. Add to this the aggravating Circumstances that all the Hands were got shamefully drunk ; every Thing was running to Wreck and Ruin ; no Log was heav'd ; no Watch was kept ; and, in short, all Things were in the utmost Confusion.

On *January* 1, the Slings of the Crossent-yard broke, and lay on the Main-top-sail Braces ; but instead of getting the said Yard into its Place, there were three or four Hours spent in getting it upon Deck, since the Fore-sail was broke all to Pieces ; notwithstanding, I advis'd them to haul
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their Main-sheets aft, and shift their Fore-sail, and likewise to secure their Yards from fetching away ; for in case they should, the lower Masts would be in apparent Danger : Yet they took no Notice of what I said to them ; and all I could say, in short, I found had no Manner of Influence over them.

In the Evening, I called the chief Mate down into the Cabbin, and gave him to understand, that I was very sensible that they had neither made use of their Log, nor kept any Manner of Watch ; that there was no Glass running ; no Mate to tend the Compass ; that the Pumps were entirely neglected ; that, in short, there was no one Thing regarded, but perpetual carousing and getting drunk. I told him, moreover, that unless they minded their Log and their Compass more than they had hitherto done, they could never expect to make any Port whatsoever. To this he answered, that the Pumps were duly tended, which were more material. To this I rejoined, that if he and his Fellow-Mate would but take due Care of the Ship, the common Hands would work at the Pumps for their own Safety. I gave him likewise to understand, that the Ship was much tighter, and in a far better State and Condition, than it had been for some considerable Time before. And both the Mates gave me incontestible Proofs that they were of the same Opinion, by their drinking *Madeira* Wine with me in the Cabbin, for three Hours successively, to welcome in the New Year. : On the Second of *January*, the Strap of the Block of the Main-top-sail Yard was gone, the Aft through the Yard lay on the Cap, the Lanyards of the Top-mast back Stays were all lost fore and aft ; none of the Lifts, Braces, or Rolling-Tackles were haul'd tort ; most of the Robins of the Coarfers
were

were broke loose ; no Business, in short, was in the least regarded, and nothing but Rioting and Drunkenness went forward amongst them.

The Reader, that in the least reflects on the unhappy Situation I was in, will forgive me, when I tell him, that I was incensed to the last Degree, and threatned them hard, (tho' I had no Power of acting) for being so monstrously remiss and negligent in their Duty.

As I found Menaces had no Effect, I returned to my usual Method of Expostulation, in Hopes the Danger they were in might bring them to a little Consideration, if nothing else would. I represented to them the ill Consequences of their leaving me in the Dark, without either Tinder, Matches, or Candle, in the Night-time ; since they could not but be conscious to themselves, that the Welfare of the Vessel, and the Preservation of all our Lives, in a great Measure, depended on my Observations, in regard to the Course that we steer'd, and the Distance which we run ; since they themselves would neither keep the Log, nor be observant of their Watch.

Such Conduct, as I observed before, provoking me beyond Measure, I could not refrain from giving them opprobrious Language. ' Ye Villains, ye piratical Villains, said I, take Care of what you are about ; for there is not one single Step that is taken on Board, but what I know it as well as yourselves. It will be my Time hereafter, perhaps, to make you smart very severely for your Insolence and Inhumanity towards me ;' with several other Menaces of the like Nature : For what Person in my Station, and under my Circumstances, could refrain from the sharpest Reproaches ?

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These Testimonies of my Resentment startled, indeed, my chief Mate, and he said, with a little Confusion and Surprize, *I thought we were all unanimous*; and gave into the same Sentiments. Whereupon he left me, in a very abrupt Manner, and went directly upon Deck; and, from the Sequel, I judg'd that he had charged some of the Hands above with holding a Correspondence with me; for *Gatbara* returned very shortly afterwards, and told me, that *John Murray* had confessed to him, (in the Hearing of the whole Crew) that I had been tempting him, and had offered him not only Cloaths and Liquor, but Money likewise, in Case he would stand my Friend, and prove faithful and just to me. Which artful Allegation I proved to be a most notorious Falsehood, both by *Edward Flackerty* and *William Wham*; and, at the same Time, I gave them to understand, that I scorn'd to hold a clandestine Correspondence with any Villain of them all.

Upon this, the Reader is desired to observe, that the said *Murray* treated me with Abundance of very scurrilous Language, and loaded me with a thousand Menaces; and as I was going down into the Cabbin, *Cornelius Clerk*, who was then at the Helm, in a Whisper, informed me, that they were unanimously determined to swear away my Life.

On the Third of *January*, all Hands were as idle as ever; no Business was going forward but carousing; no Sails, no Rigging was taken Care of; the Main-sail and Fore-sail was flying from the Yards: There was no Watch, no Log; and, in short, the whole Crew were perfectly mad and distracted.

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The next Day, no Manner of Care was taken either of the Sails or the Rigging; and as the Sea beat in upon us, I made an excessive Noise at the Mates for not setting the Fore-top-sail; but all to no Purpose. My Resentments and my Admonitions were still treated alike; that is to say, with the utmost Scorn and Contempt. At last, however, the second Mate perceiving that the lower Yards fetched too much Way, he and *James Smoot* went up, and shifted the Rolling-tackle of the Main-yard. At Three in the Afternoon the Fore-sail split to Pieces; the other Sails, however, as it happened, kept the Vessel before the Wind.

On the Fifth of *January*, my Advice to them was, to get the other Fore-sail to the Yard; but their Answer then was, that they had been so prodigiously fatigued with pumping, that not one of them was able to stir. How probable, or how just this Excuse could be, I submit to the Reader, since there had been but one Pump going all the Time.

I then laid before them the ill Consequences that must of Necessity attend them thro' the Neglect of their Log; and at the same Time I told them, that in case their Top-mast was not well secured, their lower Mast would be in apparent Danger. No Notice, however, was taken of what I said; neither Sails nor Rigging were regarded.

As there was no Sail set but the Main-sail and Fore-stay-sail, and as there was a great Sea, and the Ship was labouring for want of Sail; and moreover, as neither the Course nor Log was taken the least Notice of, I reprov'd the Mates very severely, for not getting more Sail upon the Ship, and not looking after their Rigging. After having thus reprimanded them for their most shameful Neglect of Duty, I gave them once more my Advice.

vice. Be a little more frugal, said I to them, both of your Provisions and your Liquor ; for since you have made almost a Wreck of the Ship through your Indolence and Indiscretion, there is no great Prospect of your making the *Western Islands*. To this I added, that it would be much more advisable for them to steer for the Coast of *Portugal*, (though I had given the same Advice frequently before, but to no Purpose) since there was a great Range of Shore, and consequently that by such Means there would be a much greater Likelihood of their getting safe into some Harbour or other ; and I concluded my Advice with giving them to understand, that they greatly endanger'd both the Ship and themselves, since they had no *Mediterranean* Pass.

About Eleven at Night, as the Sea beat hard upon us, I ran upon Deck, and found the second Mate, and some of the Watch at the Pump, regaling themselves with warm Bumbo, which indeed was their constant nightly Practice, as they would never sit without a Fire.

I rated them, 'tis true, pretty severely, and made an excessive Noise ; at which the chief Mate and the other Watch got up : I told them, that unless they set the Fore-top-sail, we should all inevitably perish ; but neither Menaces, Admonitions, nor even the Prospect of Death itself, had any Influence upon them, as they were all perfectly drunk and infatuated.

On the sixth of *January*, about two in the Morning, I called to the Mate, and the Watch ; and as the Ship labour'd extremely, and as I expected every Minute that the Rudder would be beat off the Stern-post, I blamed them, in very warm Words, for not making more Sail ; and I asked them how they durst steer the Ship in the Manner they did

did to the Southward. Their Answer then was truly, that they would steer as they thought proper, and the less I chatter'd (or Words to that Effect) the better it would be for me.

About Eight o'Clock in the Morning I went upon Deck, and seeing the Fore-top-sail set on the Cape, I asked them why they did not secure their Masts, and hoist the Fore-top-sail, and get the Fore-sail to the Yard, and gave them other Directions for their having After-sail, by which Means they might keep the Vessel to; and I moreover, peremptorily insisted that they should steer for the Coast of Portugal; since the Welfare of the Ship, and the Safety of all our Lives in a great Measure depended on their laying hold of that Shore.

Finding all my Remonstrances perfectly fruitless and ineffectual, and receiving nothing but the most insolent and opprobrious Language for my just Reprehensions, I was almost distracted; and told them (in the Height of my Resentment) that I had much rather they would throw me over-board, or put me to Death any other Way, than to live in such Torment and Perplexity of Mind.

I then address'd myself to the Mates in particular: Your conscious Guilt, said I, makes you Both perfectly abandoned, and regardless both of what you say and do. As you are sensible, added I, that you'll be hanged, when you get on Shore for all your pyrrhical Proceedings, you are quite indifferent whether the Ship sinks or swims.

As to the rest of the Crew, indeed, they are a Pack of poor, ignorant Wretches, that are entirely subservient to your Directions, and if you will but indulge them as you do in Idleness and Profusion of Liquor, have no farther Thought, and will follow

follow your Orders, tho' never so inconsistent with Reason, or never so fatal in their Consequences.

As for my own Part, I have scarce closed my Eyes since the Vessel has been under your Conduct; as I am under the fatal Necessity of tending your Course, and forming a proper Judgment of your Run, since you have entirely neglected it. I am very sensible, that you have not the least Regard for me; and was not you under some small Apprehensions of being in Danger yourselves, it would be a Matter of Indifference to you, if the Ship was absolutely lost.—All this availed nothing; the old Answer was retorted, that I might save my Breath to cool my Porridge, and that they would act as they thought proper, tho' I bellow'd and roar'd till Doomsday.

At about Eleven at Night, as the Rudder drove about, and it was expected that it would work off from her Stern-post every Minute, I ran upon Deck, to see how Matters stood; I found the Lashing of the Tillow had been cut, and that the Tillow was unshipt, I gave Orders for shipping the Tillow directly; but, as I found I was disobey'd in this Particular, as I had been in all others before, I was forced to do it myself, and I secur'd it, at least for the present. As the main Giers, however, were cut, the Yard came down about our Ears, which broke the Star-board Lift from off the Main-top-sail Yard.

On the seventh of *January*, when I got up, and found no Manner of Care was taken of any one individual Thing, I wedg'd the Tillow myself in the Rudder Head; and when I had so done, I took *Gaddirer* below, and shew'd him that thro' his Negligence and Remissness; one of the Rudder
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Irons was actually broke, and the other so loose, as to be in Danger of breaking off; and I told him seriously, that unless some better Care was taken, we should every Soul of us inevitably perish; but this Remonstrance likewise was treated with the same Indignity and Disregard as all the Rest.

Some short Time afterwards the Mate came down to me, and acquainted me that the last Butt of Water was abroach, and that they must all go to short Allowance. To this I replied, I did not wonder at it in the least, considering the Manner of their thoughtless and unguarded Proceedings: Had you been wise and considerate, said I, you should have been at Allowance of every Thing in general long before this; and not have lived after this riotous and pyratrical Manner.

As I foresaw a Probability of a brisk Gale of Wind coming on, I advised them to get the Fore-sail to the Yard, and to secure (whilst they had Time) both their Masts and Rigging; but the Mate, with his usual Insolence, and an Air of Contempt of the Precaution that I had given him, said, Damn his Soul, if he would give himself any Trouble or Concern about it. As for his Part, he should mind the Pumps; since that was the principal Article to be regarded.

As the Main-yard lay down on the Cheeks of the Pumps, when they came to draw one of the Pump Spears it broke. In the Afternoon, being upon Deck about four o'Clock, and seeing that the Fore-mast fetch'd great Way, I ran directly to see what was the Cause of it; and upon Examination, I found two of the Chain-plates on the Star-board Side were broke, and all the Shrouds on that Side were gone; but one of the Hands prevailed on the rest to secure the Mast; and it was lucky

enough for them that they did ; for the Ship laboured greatly all the Night long.

Tho' I found they were determined to make for the *Western Islands*, notwithstanding I had laid before them all the Difficulties and Inconveniencies that would attend such an Attempt ; yet I gave them the Place of the Ship, according to my Reasoning, since they would not adhere to my Advice ; and told them, in the softest Terms imaginable, that I should be always very ready to be of all the Service I could for the Welfare of the Ship, and for the Safety and Preservation of the whole Company on Board.

On *Jan. 8*, in the Morning, instead of securing their Masts, and getting Things to Rights, they had got a Cag of Rum up, and knocked the Head in. There was no Talk of going to short Allowance, notwithstanding their Stock of Bread and Water was nearly exhausted.

At last, with Abundance of Persuasions and fair Words, I prevailed on them to set up some Rigging (for the better Security of the Fore-mast) and to set the Sprit-sail. I persuaded them likewise, by all Means, to haul in the Main-tacks and Sheets, which had been towing over-board ever since the Main-yard had come down about our Ears. The Mate, indeed, told me, that they were going about bending the Fore-sail, and splicing the Main-Giers, in order to get the Main-yard up ; but, as for my own Part, I saw no great Likelihood of their accomplishing the End proposed.

About Eleven o'Clock at Night, as the Tillow flew from one Side to the other, and as I expected her Stern-post would have come out, I ran upon Deck ; but found no Mate there, nor one Soul at the Pumps ; and *William Wham*, who had left the Helm

Helm to itself, was got drunk below. In short, I found No-body upon Deck but *John Murray*, on whom I prevailed at last, tho' with great Impor- tunity, to stand to the Steerage.

On my making a great Noise, the Mates and the rest of the Crew came up, whom I reprimanded very severely, but all to little or no Purpose; all my Ravings and Expostulations were no more re- garded now than before.

On *Jan. 9*, I found, in the Morning, that they had got the other Fore-sail upon Deck; which, as they said, they had been three Hours about at least. Upon that, I encouraged them, and endeavoured to convince them of the absolute Necessity that there was of getting their Sails to their Yards, and their Masts secured in the best Manner they could, since we were drawing near the Coast of *Portugal*. I told them, moreover, that the Wind blew north- erly for near three Parts of the Year; and that, without Sails, we should never be able to hold Land; and, in a Word, that unless we were pro- vided with Sails sufficient to keep the Vessel off the Land, in case the Wind set on Shore, we should all be inevitably lost.

On the Tenth of *January* our Pump-hook was lost, and gone over-board, through one of the Mate's Negligence.

This Morning, the Wind hauling Northward, I still prest them to get their Main-yard up, to bend their Courses, and secure their Masts, &c. But this Advice, like all the rest, was wholly dis- regarded. They went, however, to the short Al- lowance of three Half-pints of Water a Day only.

On *Jan. 11*. I prevailed on the Men to secure the Fore-mast; and, as the Wind had haul'd to the Northward, one of the Mates came to me
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(with some seeming Concern) and told me, that he wish'd he had taken my Advice ; with some other Testimonies of a Sense of the ill Consequence of his Neglect of Submission to my superior Judgment. To those little Condescensions (which I imagined at the same Time to be only feign'd) I told him, I thought it was high Time for them to reflect on their past Misconduct, after they had been guilty of such repeated Provocations, and such almost unparallel'd Mal-practices ; after they had reduced themselves, by their Rioting and Drunkenness, to a starving Condition ; and, in short, after the Ship was become but very little better than a Wreck.

In the Afternoon I employ'd myself in Splicing the Main-Giers ; and after that put the Crew to Allowance only of Half a Bisket a Day.

On *Jan.* the 12th, I reev'd the Main-Giers Forefail ; and being in Sight, gave the customary Signal of Distress. The Crew at the same Time being employ'd in unbending the Main-top-sail, in the Performance of which they found more Trouble and Fatigue than they expected, the Second Mate, (*Mr. Roberts*) insisted upon having it cut quite away, and had not I interpos'd, it had actually been done.

On the 13th of *January*, they sway'd the Main-yard up, but never mention'd a Word about bending the Courses, being, as they were pleas'd to say, so very weary and so monstrously fatigu'd.

Their heavy Work, however, did not in the least prevent their Merriment ; for they had kill'd a Hog of mine, which I had before given them a particular Charge not to touch upon any Account whatsoever. And at the same Time that I laid the Injunction upon them, I told them, it would be
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of greater Service to them hereafter, than it could possibly be to them at that present Juncture.

At about Five o'Clock in the Morning, on the 14th of *January*, the *Rock of Lisbon*, bearing East South East, at the Distance of eight Leagues or thereabouts, as near as could be guess'd, I desir'd them to get the Foresail to the Yard, to ship their Winels, bend their Cables, and unstow their Anchors.

No Regard however, was paid to what I propos'd; but all of them were summon'd together, and there was held a kind of Council amongst themselves.

As soon as their important Cabal was over, which was about 9 o'Clock or something after, a Signal of Distress was made, and soon after a Fishing-boat came, with a Pilot and six Hands, who came on board. A Letter was sent immediately by one of them privately to the Consul, and another to the Commanding Officer of one of his *Britannic Majesty's* Ships, in case there was any one at that Time in the *Tagus*.

Upon the six Hands coming on Board, the greater Part of my Crew went directly below, and refus'd to lend the least assisting Hand towards getting our Foresail to the Yard. Those, however, who were willing to work, shipped our Winels, bent the best Bower Cable, and unstow'd our Anchor.

When the Evening came on, I went forward and perceiv'd that the Clinch was not haul'd to the Ring of the Anchor; whereupon I requested of my Men to do it: Upon which they treated me with their customary Ribaldry and scurrilous Language: and told me, that as they had the Command of the Vessel, they would act as they thought

thought proper, without any Regard to my officious Directions; and that as they were answerable for their Conduct, I had nothing to do with it. With Abundance of the like saucy, pert and opprobrious Reflections.

Their unparrelled Insolence, however, did not prevent me from reprimanding them in the severest Manner; for I found most of them as drunk as Swines.

At about Seven o'Clock, as we were shot within *St. Julian's* Castle, the second Mate being at the Lead, and the chief Mate on the Quarter-deck, they would most certainly have run the Ship ashore, (having shoal'd their Water from Sea-fathom to three) had not I instantly ran aft, and took the Helm out of the Fellow's Hand that was in the Steerage.

Being sensible of their wicked and malicious Intention of making a Wreck of the Vessel, I very severely reprimanded the chief Mate for his villainous Behaviour: Whereupon he pertly made Answer; How should I know any Thing of the Matter? Have not you a Pilot on Board?

I told him he was a Villain, and a Scoundrel; and that he could not but be sensible (if he had any Eyes in his Head) that the Ship was steering directly for the Shore, and scarcely a Cable's Length off.

At about Seven, as the Tide came down strong, we were obliged to cast Anchor; but when the Anchor was gone, and had not reached Ground, I ran forward, to see what was the Matter. I found that one Part of the Cable, which they had got on the Fore-castle to make the Clinch, lay over the Bumpkin; and that it was lashed with a Gasket to one of the Timber-heads; but as I was pretty nimble and active, I got the Cable clear for running.

Several

Several Boats came to our Assistance, and every Body pitied our Distress and melancholy Situation; and we had inevitably been lost, had not the Ship of which Capt. *Duar* was Commander, providentially come on Board.

After we had held a Conference with him and his Pilot, they came to this Determination; that we should cut as soon as it was Tide of Flood; for before we could purchase our Anchor (as it was foul Ground) we might probably be drove upon the Rutchups. The Mates, however, being both drunk, paid no more Regard to their Advice, than they had before done to mine; and treated every Body, in short, with the utmost Indecency and ill Manners.

I took Capt. *Duar*, however, down into my Cabin; and, whilst I was giving him a full and circumstantial Account of all the Proceedings that had passed during my deplorable Voyage, both the Mates burst into the Cabin upon us, and, with a surprising Assurance, gave me to understand, that they had over-heard all my long tedious Detail; but, damn their Eyes, they were before-hand with me; for I had murdered one of their Comrades, and they would hang me; damn their Eyes if they did not. To which they added a Flood of other profligate Language, not fit to be repeated. Upon this, I was obliged to turn them out of the Cabin.

About Ten o'Clock, we fortunately purchased our Anchor; and whilst I was upon the Deck, in order to lend a helping Hand, *Roberts*, the second Mate, abused me in the most scurrilous Manner, and turned me off of Deck; telling me, at the same Time, in a very imperious and insolent Manner, that, as they had taken care to bring the

Vessel into Port, they could still take care of her, without any of my Assistance.

On *January* the 15th, we came to an Anchor about four in the Morning; and at eight the chief Mate insisted on broaching a twenty Gallon Cag of Rum of mine, since he had been supplied by *Richards*, the second Mate, with ten Gallons for the Use of the Crew, when at Sea; but I insisted he should not; upon which he desisted, and did not for the present introduce any further Discourse on that Demand. After that, he dress'd himself, with an Intent to take the Boat and four Hands, and wait upon the Consul. When I laid before him the bad Consequences that would very probably attend so rash and precipitate a Step, he damn'd me, and asked me how I dar'd to talk to him in such a Manner; and order'd me directly down to my Cabbin, and planted a Centinel over me, arm'd with a Cutlass, to prevent my stirring out; broach'd the Cag of Rum that was none of his own; paid the second Mate all his exorbitant Demands; and, with the most consummate Assurance, told me his People should not want for Liquor, as long as there was any in the Ship.

About eight in the Morning, on the 16th of *January*, the *Rye's* Barge came on Board; and as my Letters had been received, the Lieutenant called for the Mates, and had some Discourse with them for a short Time; and soon after dropt astern with his Boat, and ask'd me, whether I would take upon me the Command of the Vessel. To that Question I immediately answered, Yes, Sir, by all Means; for I know of no one so well qualified for that Purpose.

Upon this, the Lieutenant immediately sent a petty Officer on Board, with six inferior Men of his

his own, all duely arm'd; who immediately released me, and confined the two Mates, and *John Hunt*, at my special Request.

As to the rest of my Hands, I ordered them to behave themselves in a decent Manner, and take care to do their Duty. Not being used to Restraint, however, and having been indulg'd in Indolence and Drunkenness so long, they followed the Example of their old Masters the Mates, and never regarded what I said to them; but, according to Custom, got down below, to enjoy themselves.

As they had emptied three Casks of Meat (by their living in Profusion during the whole Time the Ship was in the Mates Possession) I made them take up, for the Time they were under my second Care and Inspection, with what was left, and which was a coarse Sort, and what they scorn'd to make a Meal of before.

On the 17th of *January*, I called up all the Hands I had on Board, and gave them to understand, that such of them as were inclin'd to stay with and assist me, till the Contest between the Mates and myself could be fully and duly enquir'd into, and absolutely settled and adjusted in a proper Court of Judicature, should (on their good Behaviour) have the same Encouragement as any able Seaman had in the Port of *Lisbon*.

After having performed Quarentine, the People were examined before *John Russel*, Esq; his *Britannick* Majesty's Consul General, the Vice Consuls, and some Merchants; before whom also I was examined, and accused the People of taking the Command of the Ship from me. On *Monday* the 28th of *January*, O. S. I went to *Lisbon*, and made the Protest, and signed it. Upon which, the next Day, *William Wham*, *Edward Flakerly*, and *James Smout*,

Smout, &c. were sent on Board the *Sphinx*, and the two Mates, *James Gatharar*, *Humphry Roberts*, and *Cornelius Clark*, were sent Prisoners on Board his Majesty's Ship of War the *Rye*, Captain *Wray* Commander. When I returned on Board my own Ship, there was a Letter lodged for me from the Consul General, to send all my People brought in-to Port with me, on Board the abovementioned Ship, and they were afterwards ordered home Prisoners in his Majesty's Ship *Sphinx*, Captain *Lloyd*.

On my Arrival in the *Downs*, I received a Letter from a Friend, to caution me, that he had Reason to suspect my People had sworn Murder against me, and bid me beware of a Surprise. Upon which I put the Ship in Possession of a Pilot, and going ashore, went Post to *London*. When I came to Town, I reported all the Transactions of the People to my Owners, to whom I was consigned, and had the Advice of an Attorney and my Friends to keep out of the Way, for that there was an Admiralty Warrant to apprehend me for the Murder of one of my Men. I endeavoured to get my Money from the Merchants, to enable me to take Advice, but never had a Farthing, till after 10 Weeks being in the *Marshalsea*; and then it was only on Condition, that none but a Person they directed, should receive it, in such a Manner, and in such a Sum; and I must give such a Receipt, as the Merchants should think fit. The Want of which Money to help me to get Advice, hindered me from surrendering as I intended to do, tho' contrary to the Advice of my Attorney and Friends, as I was conscious of my Innocence, and hoped to bring the People to Justice: For such unheard of Behaviour
never

never was, both before, and after they took the Ship from me.

As Capt. *Lowrey* mentions his People being brought home on Board the *Sphinx*, a Copy of Captain *Lloyd's* Affidavit was procured by his Friends, which they thought proper to annex to his Narrative, and is as follows, viz.

WILLIAM LLOYD, Esq; late Commander of his Majesty's Ship the *Sphinx*, maketh Oath, That *John Hunt*, *William Wham*, *James Smout*, *William Dwight*, *Edward Flakerty*, *John Murray*, and *James Ramsbaw*, were sent on Board his Majesty's Ship the *Sphinx*, in the River of *Lisbon*, then commanded by this Deponent, from the *Molly* Merchant Ship, on the 29th Day of *January*, 1758, and that on the first Day of *February* following, *James Gatharar*, *Humphry Roberts*, and *Cornelius Clark*, were likewise sent on Board his Majesty's said Ship, then in the said River, from on Board his Majesty's Ship *Rye*; and this Deponent saith, that by the Order of Captain *Charles Wray*, the then commanding Officer, and by Letter from *John Russel*, Esq; his then Majesty's Consul General at *Lisbon*, he, this Deponent, treated them as Prisoners charged with seizing the *Molly* Merchant Ship, and dispossessing the Captain of his Command. And this Deponent saith, that the said several Prisoners were confined, as such, under the Care of Centinels, when in Port; but at Sea they had the Liberty of the Ship, and were put under Confinement on the said Ship's Arrival at *Spithead*, and delivered to Captain *Bentley* of the *Invincible*, by Order of the Admiralty, who received them as Prisoners. And this Deponent lastly saith, That if he had known of the Trial of the said *James Lowrey*,

Lowrey, he would have attended thereupon, if required.

W. LLOYD.

*Sworn this 25th Day of
February, 1752, at
HammerSmith in the
County of Middlesex,
before me, S. BEVER.*

Captain *Lowrey's* Behaviour was quite composed and resigned to whatever might be the Consequence of his being found guilty, and Sentence passing thereupon. After about ten Days, or a Fortnight, he was taken violently ill of a Fever, for which he was blistered upon the Head, &c. and was just upon Recovery, when the Time for Execution came on. There was a Report prevailed among some People, that he should immediatly after coming from the Bar, call in question, and express himself dissatisfied at what the Court had done. So far from it, that I was Witness to the Words he immediately expressed, as soon as came from the Bar, which were to this Effect, *viz.* That the Court and Jury had done no more by him, than what was to be expected from the Evidence laid before them, but that the People had sworn very hard. To this agrees the Petition himself wrote in a Day or two afterwards, and asked my Opinion of it; whether or no it was sent, I don't take upon me to say. A Copy of it is as follows.

The

*To the Honourable Sir Thomas Salusbury, Judge of
his Majesty's High Court of Admiralty.*

The humble PETITION of *James Lowrey*, now
under Sentence of Death in *Newgate*,

Humbly Sheweth,

THAT your Petitioner, as by Gratitude bound,
from the great Indulgences receiv'd from the
honourable Court on his Trial, returns his humble
Thanks, more particularly to your Lordship, for
the favourable Sentence pass'd upon me, after hear-
ing a Number of People (not having any Sense of
Futurity) swear so point-blank against me; altho'
the saving of the Ship which we were then in,
and their Lives, believe me, good Sir, as I am to
answer for all my Actions before the great and om-
nipotent God at my Demise, was the Rule I ever
kept up to, which, I hope, if not here, may be
some Plea for me in the World to come.

However, good Sir, I have Hope, that from
the favourable Report your Lordship will make of
me, and the known great Lenity which is always
predominant in his Majesty's Breast, there may be
a Way open to Mercy for an innocent Man, who
has served in his Majesty's Fleet, during the late
Spanish and *French* Wars, to the Satisfaction of his
Officers, and Distress of his Majesty's Enemies.
This would easily be made appear by your Peti-
tioner's Letters, Certificates, &c. which, if I could
hope for such an Indulgence as your Lordship's
looking over them, should wait on you. And that
your Lordship may long live to enjoy the Station
which

which you so deservedly fill, is what your Petitioner, as in Duty bound, shall ever pray.

James Lowrey.

Mr Captain *Lowrey*, before the violent Fever with which he was so severely attacked, deprived him of his Senses, was frequently desired by his Friends in my Hearing, to give them a real, and true Representation of the Circumstances, particularly relating to the Death of *Hessack*, that they might be the better enabled to serve him, and they know he always represented it as in the Narrative, and only said of the People, that they had sworn hard; and he wished they might live to be better Men, and repent of what they had agreed among themselves for the Purpose of taking away his Life, in order to prevent their own being brought to Justice for their bad Behaviour in the Voyage.

He was for near a Fortnight or more labouring under the Fever, blistered almost from Head to Foot; during which Time his Friends had conceived some Hopes, that his Life might be saved, upon the Application intended to be made to his Majesty; which when in Intervals mentioned to him, he seemed not at all to rejoice at it, but as well as he could speak, would say, *God's Will be done*. And when he was told the Report was made of him to his Majesty, and he was ordered for Death, he was still in the same Tone; his Fever being then in some Measure reduced and corrected, by the Applications his Friends had made to relieve him, in Hopes of saving Life: Because he wanted not those in the highest Repute and Esteem in all the Navy, Gentlemen, Officers of high Rank, and others, to interceed in his Behalf, who took upon them so to do, upon the Knowledge they had

had of his being a diligent active Seaman, and a good Subject.

Resigned he was indeed to the Will of Providence, and his Superiors, to the last Degree; nor once, by external Appearance, or by Expression, shewed the least Degree of Timidity, though he declared his firm Belief of the Time when he must give up an Account of his Actions at a future Judgment. Wrapt up in his Innocence, as to any Intention of committing so barbarous an Act, as his Accusers made out against him, he said he could meet his Fate with the utmost Resignation and Patience. And this, I believe, all that saw him in his last Trial upon the Stage, from whence he was executed, were Eye-witnesses of.

He was in no Hurry of Spirits upon his approaching End, till, on the Evening before his Execution, two inconsiderate Men came abruptly into his Apartment, as he lay in Bed (out of which he had not been for some Time, but just to have it moved, that he might lay the easier) and told him they were come to take Measure of him for the Iron-work, in order for his hanging in Chains. This indeed shock'd his Apprehensions a good deal, and gave him great Perturbation of Mind.

Soon after I visited him, in order to give him what Consolation I was by my Office intitled to do, and by Authority of the Holy Scriptures. Immediately upon my Approach to his Bed-side, he accosted me with, Sir, I have just now met with the greatest Shock that ever I did in my Life. I asked him what it was; and he told me as I have related above, with respect to the two Men coming to tell him he was to be hanged in Chains.

I endeavoured to take off the Edge of this Terror in the best Manner that then occurred to me,

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by

by representing to him, that perhaps they might be Persons, who made use of that Pretence, in order to satisfy a Curiosity they might have to see him. And I added, that I had the Day before heard such a Report, but the Truth of it I disputed, and should do so till I saw the Warrant, which would not be brought to the Keeper till the Morning of the Execution. Upon which he seemed to be somewhat easier in his Mind, and we went to Prayers together, in which he joined with me most fervently.

Some Time after this, the Deputy Marshal of the Admiralty, and some other Gentlemen from *Dofors Commons*, came (as usual upon such an Occasion) to ask Captain *Lowrey* if he had any reasonable Request to make, which was in their Power to grant. He asked the Favour of being admitted to go in a Coach, upon account he had laid so long upon a sick Bed; which was then readily granted. What passed besides, we shall omit, perhaps as nothing to the Purpose. And so the Gentlemen took Leave of him, and he of them, in a very civil and humane Manner. After which Captain *Lowrey* and I had some Conversation, and went to Prayers again e'er we parted, to implore the divine Mercies.

The next Morning I attended him again as soon as I conveniently could, and found a Friend or two with him, whom he really looked upon, as such Others, who are pretended Printers of this Narrative, would have seen him, but he did not desire to see them, one of them having treated him so ill before, that Captain *Lowrey* told him, had he not been in the Situation he was, his reproachful and insolent Behaviour would have obliged him to kick him down Stairs. After the Blister on his Head,

and

and those on his Arms were dressed, which put him to no small Pain, though he bore it with great Patience, he got out of Bed with some Assistance, and when dressed, we had some Discourse together; in which he declared himself perfectly easy as to his approaching Fate; never mentioning a Word of being to be hanged in Chains. He said he hoped that God had given him Grace to repent him of the Errors of his past Life; that he should die in Charity with all Men; and was desirous of receiving the blessed Sacrament, in Remembrance of the Death of *Christ*, believing it to be the only Conveyance of the Benefits of his Passion, viz. of the Forgiveness of Sins, and of Salvation in the World to come; according to God's Promises in *Jesus Christ*. Accordingly we proceeded to Prayer, and Consecration of the Sacrament, after the Manner of the Church of *England* by Law established, which he received on his Knees. When this was over, he was quite tranquil and easy, and said, he was ready to go whenever he was called upon.

His Friends were solicitous to have him conveyed to the Place of Execution in a Coach, and had accordingly provided a Mourning Coach for him, as he had the Promise of that Conveyance over Night. They left us together, and went down Stairs; and upon their Return called me out from Captain *Lowrey*, to tell me their Resolution was altered, and he was at last to go in a Cart; and 'twas said to be a particular Direction from above; and, lest it should hurry him, I was desired to break it open to him in as easy a Manner as I could suggest. I went to him, and said, Now we have gone thus far, I hope you now forgot the Things on Earth, and are setting your Affections on Things above. What if any Thing

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should

should happen worse, and otherwise than you expect? To which he reply'd, My dear Sir, nothing can make me uneasy : I hope I've now Resolution to face the worst, and bear all with Patience. I told him then he must not expect to go in a Coach, for that there was a Cart ready, and he must be content to go in it. To which he reply'd, 'Tis very odd ; but if it must be so, I am very easy.

Presently afterwards he was called upon to move, the Officers being ready, and soon put into the Cart, with as much Composure as ever he appeared in his Life. He went through a vast Concourse of People to the Place of Execution, and met with much less Insult than some Folks imagined he would have done.

When he came there, what a vast Concourse of People was there all round about the Place ! When I came down to him, and had got upon the Scaffold, I ask'd him how his Mind seemed to be affected? He said very well, through the Hope he had in *Christ Jesus* ; but yet 'twas a shocking Sight. I desired him not to regard the Concourse, but to fix his Mind with me in offering up our Prayers to the Almighty, and in recommending his Soul to the Protection of *Jesus*, and the Mercies of God. Accordingly we were so employed for some Time ; and soon after I had taken my Leave of him, the Executioner struck out the Prop of the Scaffold very dexterously, and he dropp'd down in a perpendicular Line, and never struggled.

As to the Particulars of the Death of *Hassock*, he always said to the last, that he struck him only three or four Times with the End of a cross Jagg-brace upon his Back, as he owned upon Trial ; yet afterwards he called the People as to take down *Hassock*

sack out of the Way of hoisting the Main-top-sail; they not coming so soon as they ought, he ran himself to do it, and found him with his Head hanging over his Shoulders foaming at the Mouth. As soon as they suspected him dying, he had him carried down below, and bled him with a Penknife, and used what other Methods he thought necessary to recover him. He was sure what he did to him could never have killed him; that he was free from all Intent of that Kind; and the People swore hard.

He had prepared a Petition to his Majesty, with what Interposition it met with, his Friends are at a Loss to say. The Copy of which is as follows, and shall shut up all we publish on this Account, design'd only to prevent Calumny attending his Memory, as he suffered the Sentence of the Law.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty,

*The Humble Petition of Captain James Lowrey,
now under Sentence of Death.*

Sheweth,

THAT I, your Majesty's Subject, and unhappy Petitioner, am cast for my Life by my Country, through a Sett of Men, who being conscious of their unwarrantable and villainous Conduct when under my Command, and not having the Fear of God before their Eyes, have sworn away my Life, that thereby they might not be expos'd to that Punishment which their iniquitous Proceedings towards me justly merited.

May it please your Majesty, I have served many Years in your Majesty's Royal Navy, all which Time I conducted my self as a Gentleman, an honest

nest Man, and a Judge of my Business, which can be evinc'd by the concurring Testimony of all those Commanders whom I had the Honour to serve under.

I am, Royal Sir, entirely innocent of the Crime for which I am condemn'd, and for which, without your Majesty's gracious Interposition, must die. I therefore throw myself over upon your Majesty's God-like Clemency; a Virtue, for which your Majesty is chiefly adore, above all the other many Virtues that possess your great and generous Soul, and that Life that your Majesty may be graciously pleas'd to prolong, shall be devoted to your Majesty's Service, whose Royal Dignity and Interest, I, as an Individual, have, and shall, always endeavour to support and maintain, at the Hazard of Life and Fortune, and as in Duty and Gratitude bound, shall for my Royal Sovereign and Preserver

Ever pray, &c.

This is all that is published by

JOHN TAYLOR



F I N I S